ENTC 485 and 491 GUIDELINES

**ENTC 485 — Directed Studies** is available to students for special projects or directed course material with a specific professor in the Department of Engineering Technology and Industrial Distribution.

**ENTC 491 — Research** is available to students who will be involved in independent research under the tutelage of a specific professor in the Department of Engineering Technology and Industrial Distribution.

*Students must be completed with their fifth semester coursework* (i.e., For IDIS, IDIS 343, 330, 340; for ESET, ESET 349, 350, 333; for MMET, MMET 376, MMET 380, MMET 281; for MXET, MXET 375, ESET 349, ESET 350) before being enrolled in ENTC 485/491/491H; otherwise, students CANNOT be enrolled in 485/491.

In both cases, students must prepare a proposed syllabus for the respective course(s) using the attached template. Your faculty advisor must approve your proposed syllabus. Note: one 485 / 491 credit hour is equivalent to 4 scheduled work hours per week. Thus, if the student registers for 3 credits of 485 / 491, the weekly schedule should reflect at least 12 hours of scheduled work over a 15 week semester.

**How do I know if I should register for ENTC 485 or ENTC 491?**

- Are you learning or embodying something that’s already known? ENTC 485
- Are you in pursuit of discovering / advancing knowledge? ENTC 491

**Can I have more than 3 credits of either ENTC 485 or 491 apply to my degree?** No. You can only apply 3 credits each of ENTC 485 or ENTC 491 to your degree. You can register for less than 3 credits of either course; regardless of the number of credits enrolled, you must justify your credit hours per the proposal requirements described above. You may enroll in more than 3 credits of either (e.g., to support Honors thesis), but only 3 credits of either can apply toward your degree.

**Can I have credits of ENTC 485 and ENTC 491 both apply to my degree?** Yes, but only if each are unique learning experiences. That is, using an ENTC 485 and ENTC 491 to construct a year-long engineering or research project is not the spirit of combining these two courses. But, applying specialized skills learned in an ENTC 485 one semester to a novel research project a subsequent semester would likely be two different unique learning experiences. Talk with an advisor to fully understand the details. Also, keep in mind that the total credits of combined 485 and 491 remain 3.

For both courses (ENTC 485 and 491), students must have a **minimum GPA of 3.0**. Students may request approval for a 485 or 491 course to count as a technical elective. Students may take ENTC 491 for Honors research; additional paperwork with the Honors office is required.

**Procedures**

- Identify a Faculty Advisor, select a topic, and prepare a syllabus proposal as described above.
- Complete the online REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO ENROLL IN ENTC 491 or 485 form (including faculty signatures) and syllabus.
- Documents must be submitted the **WEEK BEFORE** classes begin.
- The Advising Office will automatically enroll you in the course if approved.